

Flour is distributed in Asmara, northern Ethiopia, where four million people face starvation.

## Fighting rages, famine relief suspended in northern Ethiopia

**NAIROBI (R)** — Two rebel groups say they have inflicted heavy losses on Ethiopian government forces in battles that stopped famine relief to the drought-hit northern region.

Ethiopia's Soviet-backed government has not commented on the civil war in the north for the last 24 hours. Sudan has reported an influx of 25,000 refugees trying to escape the fighting.

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), which launched a big offensive last week, said Tuesday night it killed 600 soldiers in battles near the government-held town of Keren in Eritrea province Sunday.

The announcement on the clandestine EPLF radio station, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), also said the rebels had captured the Red Sea port of Massawa.

The government reported heavy fighting in Massawa Monday night but has made no comment on the situation since then. A spokesman for the EPLF, fighting for the independence of Eritrea, a former Italian colony, told Reuters by telephone from London that the rebels had repulsed a government sea-borne invasion to try to recapture Massawa.

The other main rebel movement in northern Ethiopia, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), said Tuesday night that it killed 1,813 soldiers and captured 1,011 in battles near Wichale in Wollo province on

Friday and Saturday.

The TPLF said rebel forces staged a successful counter-attack at Wichale against the army, which has managed to recapture several towns in northern Wollo.

The TPLF, based in the northern province of Tigray, is trying to overthrow President Mengistu Haile Mariam and install a broad-based government in Ethiopia. The increased fighting has stopped all famine relief work in drought-hit northern Ethiopia where, according to the United Nations, up to four million people face starvation.

Relief sources in Addis Ababa told Reuters in Nairobi by telephone the government ordered the Joint Relief Partnership, a consortium of church-based relief agencies, to suspend all food distribution in Eritrea after the

EPLF launched its push.

The sources said ships carrying relief aid for Eritrea, which lost 80 per cent of its crops in last year's drought, were being diverted from Massawa to Ethiopia's southern port of Asab.

A Danish freighter carrying relief supplies for the Irish Charity Concern came under fire from a gunboat near Massawa Monday. It was not clear which side carried out the attack.

Relief agency representatives were due to meet TPLF leaders in Khartoum Wednesday to discuss mounting an across-the-lines food aid operation.

Massawa was the last gateway for food and fuel to enter government-held areas of Eritrea. Diplomats said the provincial capital Asmara had to rely on airlifts from Addis Ababa.

## Kabul survives one year after Soviet pullout

**KABUL (AP)** — One year after the Soviet Union withdrew its army from the fight against U.S.-backed Afghan guerrillas, President Najibullah's government points proudly to its survival.

But it is still a government under siege, militarily, politically and economically.

Najibullah, former chief of the dreaded Khat secret police, has confounded his most strident critics, notably those in the United States, who predicted a bloodbath and a victory by the Mujahadeen guerrillas soon after the last of the Red Army's troops left Afghanistan on Feb. 15, 1989.

Kabul today is a city of paradoxes and delusions. It is best viewed from afar early in the morning when a dusting of pre-dawn snow gives the sprawling capital a glistening aura.

Up close, it's a city of war-weariness and poverty where men, women and children slog through slush and mud, many of them sockless in cracked, second-hand shoes and plastic sandals.

It's a city where a 13-year-old schoolboy like Ismail can earn 4,000 Afghanis a month pulling a cart loaded with bags of flour weighing three times as much as he does. His father is paid 3,000 Afghanis a month as an office worker at the Ministry of Culture.

Ismail, his black hair and long eyelashes dusted with flour, competes with other young boys — as

well as old men — for work during the annual November-through-February school vacation. His cart-pulling provides the body heat his thin jacket does not supply. He boasts that because of his earnings, his family of nine can afford a little meat almost every day.

At the official exchange rate, Ismail's earnings are worth \$72 a month, while his father's are worth \$55. But at the more realistic black market rate, Ismail makes the equivalent of \$8 while his father earns \$6.

The Afghan has become an almost meaningless currency. Its dollar value has been cut in half in the past year, while fixed wages have not changed. It's more appropriate to view the earnings in the context of meat, which costs between 800 and 1,000 Afghanis a kilogram.

Ismail's wages are worth about five kilograms of mutton, his father's 3.75 kilograms — hardly enough to feed a family of nine for a month, let alone buy rice, bread and cooking fuel.

Salaries in Kabul are especially sobering for the foreign visitor who plunks down 3,000 Afghanis to buy a fistful of "made-in-Shanghai" notebooks and a dozen Japanese batteries.

President Najibullah and his party are the architects of a similar cosmetic coating in the military and political spheres.

Militarily, the Afghan govern-

ment forces have expanded their control, both around Kabul and the countryside. But Mujahadeen rockets still hit Kabul every day, although with less accuracy and fewer verified deaths than a year ago.

The government claims to have expanded its "security belt" around Kabul and pushed back the Mujahadeen since the Soviets completed their withdrawal a year ago.

"Our defensive line extends between 65 kilometres and 80 kilometres from the centre of Kabul," Brig.-Gen. Gulbahar Salim told reporters.

But an escorted visit to one of the security belt's last outposts, which Salim said was 60 kilometres from the capital's centre, belied the general's assertions, according to the distance gauge on an Afghan army jeep and familiar landmarks.

Asked about this later, Salim unfolded a Soviet map and pulled out a ruler. The distance between the Khak-E-Jabar and Najibullah's Arg Palace in the heart of Kabul measured 35 kilometres.

However, the government has indeed expanded its control. Not only did it defeat the Mujahadeen when they tried to capture the eastern city of Jalalabad last March and April, it has reopened key highways leading east and south of Kabul toward the Mujahadeen strongholds.

Proof of this comes not only

from the statements of the government and foreign diplomats, but — perhaps more convincingly — from the lush displays of oranges, tangerines and pomegranates throughout Kabul.

At this time of year, Afghanistan produces such fruit only in the warmer zones near the Pakistani border, turf of the Mujahadeen since the civil war started in 1978.

Politically, Najibullah has had a year of attempting to persuade the world that he is ready to share power. Through speeches and the dispatching of envoys to both Eastern and Western Europe, invitations and probes have been extended to Afghan exiles. There have been no public takers.

In Kabul, there is more a sense of hunkering down in the People's Democratic Party that seized power nearly 12 years ago and initially but unsuccessfully tried to impose Marxism on a tribalistic and capitalistic society.

Sources in Kabul, speaking on condition of anonymity, say Najibullah wants to rename the party to give it a less Socialist-sounding facade. The party has long been denounced by the Mujahadeen as a collection of "godless Communists."

Such efforts looked tarnished this week by a change of leadership in the National Front, a purportedly multiparty umbrella group set up about four years ago.

## Ankara awaits Greek elections to revive talks

**ANKARA (R)** — Turkey has no expectations from Greece's new caretaker government but will await a new cabinet after April elections to revive political dialogue marred by an ethnic issue, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

"There is political disarray in Greece. A government has been formed but we do not expect anything from it," ministry spokesman Murat Sungur said.

The new Greek government was sworn-in Tuesday to lead

Greece to a third national election in less than a year after an all-party coalition government collapsed.

"The important thing is to restart a dialogue with the cabinet to be formed after the (April) elections," he said.

Ankara and Athens ordered out each others diplomats in Komotini and Istanbul 10 days ago in a dispute over Greece's treatment of an ethnic Muslim Turkish minority in Western Thrace.

## Arens: Israel need not fear democratic, united Germany

**TEL AVIV (R)** — Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, in a departure from recent Israeli statements, has said Israel need not fear a democratic, united, Germany.

In remarks broadcast by Israel Radio Wednesday, Arens said no Jew could think about German reunification without remembering the Nazi holocaust.

But he said: "If that united Germany...fully conscious of the responsibilities that it has towards the Jewish people, a country that will contribute to strengthening democracy throughout the world, then I don't think that there's a danger to be concerned about."

The statement was in sharp

contrast to remarks by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir last November when he said the prospect of a united Germany was a grave concern for the Jewish people. Shamir's statement angered West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Arens made his statement at a meeting with Canadian Jewish fundraisers Monday but it was only broadcast Wednesday, shortly before he was due to leave for a 24-hour visit to Bonn.

He said the government had yet to take a position on the reunification of Germany, which has been precipitated by the rapid collapse of East Germany's Communist system.

## Shamir signals readiness for peace compromise

By Howard Goller  
Reuters

**TEL AVIV** — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, by choosing his words carefully and standing up to his toughest rival, has signalled to Washington he is ready to go on with peace efforts.

In a challenge to Shamir's leadership, Trade Minister Ariel Sharon announced at a wild meeting of their Likud Party Monday that he would leave the government rather than accept the premier's proposals for peace talks with Palestinians.

The 74-year-old prime minister, largely ignoring the resignation, gave a typically hardline speech to the 3,000-member Central Committee which nonetheless left an opening for progress towards the U.S.-brokered talks.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

In a gesture to Washington and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, his Labour Party ally in Israel's coalition government, Shamir purposely kept the door to talks open for Palestinians expelled from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"It was a very carefully written speech. I just can't underline that he didn't mention anything about that fact," Avi Pazner, his media adviser, told Reuters.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation, backing a 26-month-old revolt against Israeli rule in the occupied territories, wants to include the Palestinians who were deported for their resistance activities.

It also wants to include leading Palestinians from Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem, but Shamir ruled them out for fear of casting doubt on Israel's claim that Jerusalem is its "undivided capital."

"He reiterated the broad consensus of Likud that Jerusalem should remain united, is part of Israel, and there is no part for Arabs from East Jerusalem in the

process," Pazner said.

Palestinians view occupied Jerusalem as their future capital. Despite Shamir's claim to have won a mandate, the vote by a show of hands was complicated by the bumpy Sharon's simultaneous appeal for constraints on the Israeli leader's peace bid. The meeting ended in confusion.

While still trying to sort out his party problems, Shamir faces another test in the 12-member Likud-Labour inner cabinet.

Labour wants a vote on including deportees and East Jerusalem Arabs. They propose a loophole whereby the East Jerusalem Palestinians can join the talks if they have second homes in the West Bank.

It remains to be seen whether Shamir and the 67-year-old Rabin, co-architect of the government's peace moves, will be able to hold their 13-month-old coalition together.

Their alliance gave birth to a proposal for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories, the heart of current peace efforts, and has given hope to the Americans of an Arab-Israeli settlement.

Both Shamir and Rabin, convinced there can be no moves towards peace without a unity government, have resisted efforts in their parties to topple the coalition.

Vice-Premier Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, has threatened to form a narrow government without Likud. But political sources insist such a coalition of left-leaning and religious parties would not last long.

"If Labour stays in the govern-

ment, it's a clear indication that the peace process can continue," Pazner said.

If the coalition holds and American mediators close the gap between Israel and the PLO, then the foreign ministers of Egypt, Israel and the United States will meet, perhaps even this month, to announce the start of the first Israeli-Palestinian talks.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### Sudan reports 37 rebels killed

**KHARTOUM (AP)** — Government troops killed 37 Sudanese rebels during operations in southwestern Sudan early this week, the armed forces' newspaper said Wednesday. Al Kuwait 'Al Musallaha said Monday's action, which it called "mopping-up operations," was to "restore security stability to citizens" of southern Kordofan and Darfur regions who had been attacked recently by Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) rebels. The newspaper said troops killed 19 rebels near Buram, 836 kilometres southwest of the capital Khartoum. In ambushes in southern Kordofan, government troops killed 15 rebels in Abyei, 360 kilometres away from Buram, and three in the Dilling Mountains 480 kilometres southwest of Khartoum. Troops seized arms and ammunition, the paper said, but it did not mention government losses. The SPLA took up arms in 1983 to demand better economic and social treatment from the government for the south.

### Family sends message to hostage

**BEIRUT (R)** — The family of American hostage Thomas Sutherland sent him a Valentine's Day message of love Wednesday. "We send ourselves with special Valentine love and a prayer that it finds you in heart and health," the message published in the mainly Muslim, Beirut-based As Saffir newspaper said. Sutherland, 58, was the dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut when he was snatched by gunmen on June 6, 1985. The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad group claimed responsibility for his abduction. The Valentine message was accompanied by a picture of Sutherland's wife, three daughters and grandchild. Sutherland is one of 17 Western hostages believed held in Lebanon including seven fellow Americans, four Britons, two Swiss, two West Germans and an Italian.

### Algeria opposition wants new parliament

**ALGIERS (R)** — One of the leading opposition politicians in Algeria accused parliament of obstructing reforms and said it should be dissolved. Revolutionary war hero Hocine Ait Ahmed, who is now the head of the Socialist Forces Front Party, said it was time to replace the parliament with a constituent assembly. "The democratic process is not going as one would wish, especially in parliament which is still dominated by the (ruling) FLN and which refuses to allow private shareholdings in public companies," he said on television Tuesday night. "The time has come to dissolve this parliament which is working against the democratic process and the principles of the constitution. We want a constituent assembly," he added. Algeria will hold its first multi-party elections at local level later this year but the term of the national popular assembly (parliament) does not run out till next year.

### Egypt launches new African peace bid

**CAIRO (R)** — Egypt, current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), has made new proposals to end a dispute between Senegal and Mauritania, an Egyptian minister said Wednesday. But three days of informal talks in Cairo between Foreign Ministers Ibrahim Fall of Senegal and Cheikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba of Mauritania apparently failed to narrow differences. "We have received proposals but no tangible progress has been made," Ould Baba told reporters after President Hosni Mubarak held talks with the two ministers for an hour. Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, Boutros Ghali, said Mubarak listened to reports from the ministers about the conflict and gave them his proposals. Trouble between the two former French colonies was sparked by a dispute in April over grazing rights. At least 500 people died during attacks on each other's nationals in both countries. "Mubarak is making all possible efforts to settle the conflict, which we view as a temporary dispute," Ould Baba said. He accused Senegal of raising issues unrelated to the conflict.

### Turkish premier to visit Tehran

**ANKARA (R)** — Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut will pay an official visit to Iran from Feb. 28 to March 2, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. "The visit will further solidify the improvements in Turkish-Iranian relations," a ministry spokesman said. Ties were strained last year after Iran criticised a court ban on Islamic-style headscarves being worn at Turkish universities. Both governments recalled ambassadors after Turkey accused Iran of meddling in its internal affairs. The new Iranian ambassador, Ali Reza Bagheri, smoothed ruffled feathers when he visited the mausoleum of the founder of secular Turkey, Kemal Ataturk, on his arrival. Iranian dignitaries previously shunned this diplomatic tradition. A Turkish-Iranian joint Economic Committee will meet in Tehran on Feb. 23-26, the spokesman said.

### Turks protest at Paris exhibit opening

**PARIS (AP)** — Protesters scuffled with French police Tuesday evening outside the Grand Palais Museum at the opening of an exhibit attended by President Francois Mitterrand and Turkish President Turgut Ozal. Many of the 150 people protesting Ozal's presence were members of the Turkish opposition, the Workers' Party of Kurdistan, according to the French news agency Agence France-Press (AFP). The presidents were at the 6 p.m. (1700 GMT) opening of the exhibit "Suliman the Magnificent." It was not immediately known if the two leaders were aware of the demonstration outside the museum, located between the Champs Elysees and the Seine River. Police arrested about a dozen of the demonstrators who tried to break through security barriers, AFP reported. Metro stations near the museum were closed at Champs-Elysees-Clémenceau, Concorde and Franklin Roosevelt. No injuries were reported.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77311-19

#### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran  
15:45 Programme review  
15:45 Children programme  
17:10 Book of Adventure  
18:00 News for the Deaf  
18:20 Religious programme  
18:40 Health programme  
19:40 Programme review  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Local series  
21:30 Programme review  
21:40 Local programme  
22:20 Arabic film  
23:00 News in Arabic

#### PROGRAMME TWO

18:10 Tel Fero Tel Film  
18:35 La Chance aux chansons  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Contact magazine  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
19:45 Varieties  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 News in French  
21:10 NBA Basketball  
21:40 News in English  
22:20 Feature film: "Paisa Baran"

#### PRAYER TIMES

6:57 Sunrise (Summer) Doha  
11:30 Doha  
14:25 'Aar  
17:25 Maghreb  
18:45 'Isha

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swallah Tel. 810748

### Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Assumption Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terranova Church Tel. 623466

Church of the Assumption Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephrem Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 827961, 665326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 649392

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The country will be affected by a cold front. So it will be cloudy and rainy and a drop in temperature will occur. In Asaba, it will be partly cloudy and hazy with possible scattered showers. Winds will be southerly fresh and seas rough.

Min./max. temp. 4/16

Asaba 10/19

Dumana 3/12

Jordan Valley 8/15

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 16, Asaba 23. Humidity readings:

### Amman 35 per cent, Asaba 42 per cent.

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Hana Mansour 748364  
Dr. Sami Khouri 681373  
Dr. Jamal Abu Bakr 746426  
Dr. Adel Dahdab 835644  
First pharmacy 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy 776336  
Al-Anwar pharmacy 67055  
Nizkorah pharmacy 625672  
Al Salem pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 644945  
Shamsi pharmacy 637660

#### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 661111

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 87128

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896300

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 603800

#### Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 897467

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information 121

Overseas Calls 030230

Reprints 623101

Abdull Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 6601707

Company 633881

RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Int. Airport. 08-53200

#### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Ethiopian Medical Centre 81381322

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 642816

Albakh Maternity, J. Amn. 642412

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malika, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shamsi 6641714

Shamsi Hospital 669131

University Hospital 845845

Al-Musallaha Hospital 6672779

The Islamic, Abadi 6601707

Al-AME, Abadi 6641646

Al-Bashir, Al-Mahgoun 7771013

Al-Bashir, J. Amman 77511126

Army, Madina 82161125

Queen Alia Hospital 8224020

Amal Hospital 674135

ZAMQA:

Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)983323

Zarga National Hospital (09)91071

#### Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732

IBRAHIM:

Palestine Basma Hospital (02)275555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)27275



## Student volunteers in social work honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — Students who participated in the "Charitable Box Programme" organised by the Charitable Box Fund in cooperation with the Ministry of Education Wednesday received merit certificates from Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The Charitable Box Fund is a department affiliated with the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) which finances projects undertaken by charitable societies in the country.

The Queen also distributed certificates to principals of schools which took part in the programme and presented awards to the Ministry of Education.

The Queen was presented with the GUVS shield by GUVS President Abdullah Al Khateib, who later delivered a speech outlining the Charitable Box Fund's programmes.

He said that a pilot project was launched by GUVS to raise funds for the needy people, particularly students. Through this programme, Khateib said, societies have financed the education of 750 male and female students at universities and community colleges.

With approval from the Ministry of Education, a total of 5,000 boxes have been installed at schools to encourage students to donate a plaster a day for the needy families, he said.

The fund, which was established in 1984, is supervised by a special committee chaired by Sheikh Ismael Al Khateib, the Kingdom's mufti. The Wednesday ceremony, held at the Palace of Culture, was attended by Minister of Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan and other officials.

## Jordan thanks UNDP for development help

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Awni Al Masi Wednesday paid tribute to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for its aid in various forms to Jordan and appealed to the organisation to allocate further funds for future programmes in the country.

Addressing a special seminar held here to review the achievements of the fourth phase of UNDP's programmes which ends by 1991, the minister said that UNDP and other United Nations agencies had contributed a great deal towards social and economic development in Jordan since 1972.

The revision and re-examination of the projects carried out here, the minister noted, is part of the 1986-1990 five-year development plan in the Kingdom during which UNDP contributed to 31 schemes at a total cost of \$9.54 million. Apart from these contributions, the minister said, UNDP finances training courses to raise the standards of local staff in various departments and public administration.

All these courses which aim to promote human skills can only help the Kingdom deal with its financial and economic challenges, Masi added.

UNDP Resident Representative Ali Attia said the seminar was the first of its kind to be organised here to revise all UNDP activities and assess the volume of assistance needed by Jordan in the fifth phase starting in 1992.

UNDP has been providing aid directly or through various U.N. agencies like the World Health Organisation, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the U.N. Fund for Population Activities, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), Attia added.

He said Jordan's economic situation and its ability to absorb technical assistance in addition to the Kingdom's continued support for international cooperation enables it to acquire further financial and technical assistance from all sources.

Taking part in the seminar, in addition to UNDP and the Ministry of Planning, are the Land and Survey Department, the Civil Aviation Authority, the Department of Statistics, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, the Royal Scientific Society, the University of Jordan, the National Population Committee as well as the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation, the International Labour Organisation, the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the World Health Organisation.

## Police nab suspect in JD 300,000 burglaries

By Ahmad Kneibeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Amman police Wednesday announced that they had arrested a man suspected of committing a series of burglaries involving items estimated to be worth about JD 300,000.

A police spokesman, who identified the suspect only as J.A., said the burglaries involved mostly jewellery, video and television sets, silverware and other expensive items as well as cash and the target area of the robberies was western Amman residences.

The spokesman said police investigating a number of complaints of burglaries in the area found that the same modus operandi was used in almost all cases, indicating that they were the work of a single person or a single group.

The spokesman said the suspect was arrested at the Baqaa refugee camp on the outskirts of Amman. He said the suspect confessed to having committed the crimes and that he had purchased a car with the money he stole. According to the spokesman, the suspect used the car to carry out the burglaries, most of them at night.

The spokesman said several merchants who bought some of the stolen goods were arrested, and part of the loot was found at the suspect's home and returned to their owners.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

- ### EXHIBITIONS
- A plastic art exhibition which includes paintings, sculptures and ceramic works at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
  - An exhibition of photos of plays directed by Chereza, Mesgich, Masouchine, Panchou and others, at the French Cultural Centre.
  - A photographic exhibition entitled "Panscapes 1989" at the Soviet Cultural Centre.
  - An exhibition of paintings by Alla Amisova, Nabila Hilmal and Nawal Abdallah at Abdul Hamud Shousan Foundation (10 a.m. - 8 p.m.).
  - An exhibition entitled "The Blue Rider" at Mu'ta University.
- ### FILM
- Feature film entitled "Sophie's Choice" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.
  - Feature film entitled "Love Since the Time of War" at the Cultural Centre — 5:30 p.m.
- ### The European Film Festival
- Feature film entitled "Birthdays Town" (Thursday) and a film entitled "Revealed Love" (Friday) at Philcinema — 8:30 p.m.



Dumping of garbage and waste material from industrial plants is described by officials and experts as one of the major reasons behind water pollution in the area (J.T. file photo)

## Zarqa plants given guidelines to avert pollution of water

By Mamdouh Hawamdeh and Isam Qadambani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Health, in cooperation with a number of concerned departments, has embarked on speedy measures to protect water resources in the Zarqa River Basin against pollution, Minister of Health Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben said Wednesday.

Zaben, in a statement to Al Rai and the Jordan Times, said specific sets of regulations had been sent to companies and factories and other plants located within the basin on disposal of effluence and other waste material within the region and the treatment of waste that flows to the King Talal Dam.

He said that "waste material constituted a grave danger to public health and caused damage to the underground water resources."

"Companies and factories have been asked to burn the hard waste and bury the residue, and to treat waste fluids coming out of the factories and provide the workers with protective facilities," the minister said.

The minister, who made the announcement, following a three-day inspection tour of factories in the basin, said the ordered the formation of a special committee to follow up the implementation of these measures.

The minister's tour took him to the King Talal Dam and waste water treatment plants at Khirbet Al Samra, Abu Nmeir, Baqaa and Jerash.

The minister said his tour came in the wake of repeated public complaints about the danger of waste material being dumped within the Zarqa River Basin with harmful effects on humans and the environment.

He said the complaints and grievances were justified and "it is time that the ministry, in cooperation with other sectors, took drastic measures to deal with the situation."

Last month the Ministry of Water and Irrigation ordered the closure of artesian wells in the Zarqa River Basin due to the high level of chemical pollutants found in the water as a result of industrial plants dumping their waste in the river.

## Arabiyat urges quick action on interest

AMMAN (J.T.) — A request made to the government by members of the Lower House of Parliament to totally abolish interest or to reduce the rate of interest on housing and agricultural loans is designed to alleviate the burdens on Jordanian citizens, according to Deputy Abdul Latif Arabiyat.

Arabiyat was one of parliament members who made the request during the recent debates on the 1990 national budget.

In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Arabiyat said Wednesday that any decision in this regard should be taken through close coordination among banks and other concerned institutions and credit corporations.

The demand for reducing rates on interest, he said, warrants speedy action since "This is an urgent matter no less important than the question of soaring prices or the reinstatement of dismissed employees," according to Arabiyat.

Arabiyat, a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, was speaking to Petra after attending a parliamentary committee meeting on education. He said that the committee, which met under the chairmanship of Thouqan Hindawi in the presence of Minister of Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan, discussed an amendment to a law on the Ministry of Education's system for training teachers.

The committee, Arabiyat said, emphasised the need to maintain the present system of issuance of university degrees. The committee, he added, will hold a meeting with the presidents and deans of community colleges and universities to review matters related to the issue.

## Geologists to help soil survey project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian Geologists Association (JGA) and the Ministry of Agriculture reached tentative agreement Wednesday on cooperation in implementing a national project for soil survey, and land use.

The agreement was reached at a meeting between Minister of Agriculture Saleiman Arabiyat and a team representing the JGA board during which details of the project were discussed and the contribution of the association towards implementing it was examined. The project is financed by the European Community (EC).

Arabiyat said the Ministry of Agriculture was willing to provide training to Jordanian geologists in the course of implementing the project and in working out an integrated agro-geological programme, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

The minister said such cooperation was found to create a nucleus of a geological unit at the ministry to take charge of matters related to soil protection. The minister called on the JGA to visit the project site and familiarise its members with the work entailed.

The EC signed an agreement in April 1989 to grant Jordan JD 2.35 million to finance "the national soil map and land use project" "to identify arable areas and their suitability for irrigated agriculture. The project is funded under the terms of the third EC-Jordan protocol on economic, technical and financial cooperation.

JGA President George Haddadin said the JGA was willing to provide the ministry with information related to the use of industrial rock as fertilisers to help boost agricultural production.

JGA members put forward a suggestion that a specific plot of land be assigned for Jordanian geologists who will take charge of greening it as part of the national effort to green the Kingdom by the year 2000.

Arabiyat approved of the idea and said geologists could contribute most effectively towards the country's general development.

According to Petra, JGA will submit a working paper to the Ministry of Agriculture with ideas on integration between the agricultural and geological sectors.

## Study planned on expansion of social development projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Konrad Adenauer Foundation has agreed to conduct a study on the prospect of expanding and increasing its projects to include new areas in the Kingdom, according to a statement issued here Wednesday.

The statement followed a meeting at the Ministry of Social Development attended by two members of the foundation's office here and the ministry's secretary general, Mohammad Sqour, during which a general review of the foundation's projects in the Kingdom was made.

The foundation has been establishing or financing social development projects in the rural regions and helping individuals to own and operate income-generating projects. The loans normally are spent on purchasing equipment and other requirements for the projects, the statement noted.

Sqour said these projects had been very beneficial for limited income families. The programmes, which started in Jordan in 1982, are being implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development and other concerned authorities.

## Cypriot official calls for increased cooperation

By a Jordan Times Reporter

AMMAN — Visiting Under-Secretary of Cypriot Foreign Ministry Angelos Angelides Wednesday called for continued cooperation between his country and Jordan in all fields and said that an agreement signed Tuesday to promote scientific and cultural cooperation was of extreme importance to Cyprus and future bilateral cooperation.

The Cypriot official was speaking at a meeting with Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar with whom he reviewed bilateral relations, parliamentary affairs and regional issues.

Angelides said a recent statement by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir about forming a "greater Israel" manifests "Israel's evil desire to use the influx of Jewish immigrants to achieve its ambitious goals."

Arar briefed the visitor on Jordanian parliamentary life and the country's general policies. Arar received from Angelides an invitation to visit Cyprus at the head of a Jordanian parliamentary delegation.

The Cypriot official Tuesday signed an agreement here paving the way for cooperation in scientific and cultural fields between his country and Jordan.

Later, Angelides met with a number of Jordanian journalists over lunch at the Inter-Continental Hotel. The function was hosted by Cypriot Ambassador to Jordan and Syria Nicolas Macris.

He briefed them on efforts to solve the Cyprus problem, stressing that the crisis there can in no way be seen as a religious conflict between the Greek and Cypriot communities.

Angelides, who had served as Cypriot ambassador to Moscow and accredited to other Eastern European countries between 1979 and 1984, also voiced hope that changes in Europe and relaxation in relations between the superpowers would help solve problems in Cyprus and the Middle East.

The Cypriot official landed the agreements he signed in Jordan as a demonstration of his country's determination to further cement ties with Jordan and the rest of the Arab World. "This is a prelude to further cooperation, and we expect to sign two more accords in the near future," he said.

Angelides ends his visit here Saturday, when he leaves for Saudi Arabia to link up with a delegation from the Cypriot business community to discuss Sando-Cypriot relations.

## Consultant stresses Jordan's need to focus on exports

By Nur Saffi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As the general mood in Jordan shifts to self-reliance, exporting has become a trend amongst local industrialists striving for a share in bigger markets. But lack of information and export advice can delay the process. The Private Services Development Project (PSDP) of the Ministry of Planning, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) aims to meet these essential requirements, partly using foreign expertise. Business consultant Jayant Kalotra arrived in Jordan last week on a PSDP assignment. He is a native of India and a resident in America, and has studied markets and industries in the Third World.

Together with PSDP, his aim is to create a strategy to expand Jordanian services availability and the range of domestic and foreign users so that they would be competitive with other goods and services in regional and international markets. PSDP helps industries that have export potential and by that token, can increase the number of employees.

PSDP targets services like accounting, auditing, computer services, industrial management and engineering as well as marketing, research and advertising.

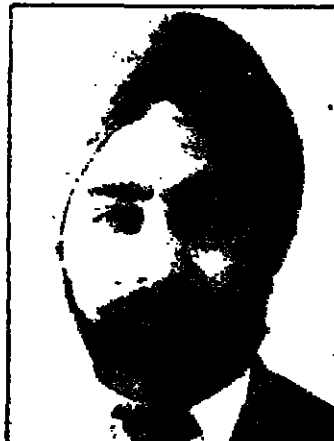
"We work alongside institutions and designate short term goals," Kalotra says. He believes that Jordan has the potential to become an economic centre for the region. For a start, the Kingdom's geographical position gives access to transport over land, sea and air towards other regional countries. Jordan's political moderation encourages foreign investors, and most importantly, Kalotra says, Jordan has the qualified people although there is a lack of training.

Since it is not the first time Kalotra visited Jordan and studied the market, he notes that there is an increasing awareness within Jordan's exporters who are gaining experience to boosting their potential — the key to Jordan becoming more self-sufficient.

"We have to look into what is really needed in order to increase foreign exchange revenues from the targeted services and improve export earnings," Kalotra points out. Additionally, more jobs for the professional and skilled workers in the Kingdom will emerge.

Kalotra stresses that needs are directed towards knowing which products are competitive for the region as well as conducting marketing research for other areas such as East and Western Europe. Kalotra sees Eastern Europe as a strategic customer for the region for consumer items. He also points out that cooperation between regional countries is needed and thus a regional strategy. At the present time, Kalotra says, Third World states are fighting for a share in the same market, causing economic difficulties for the countries concerned.

Jordan must encourage foreign investors to establish manufacturing plants in the country. But even though much needs to be done for the country to benefit from exporting, Kalotra was optimistic about Jordan's future, saying that the country has comparative advantages over other Arab states because of its people, position and stability.



Jayant Kalotra

## Onset of an irreversible process

(Continued from page 1)

"land for peace" settlement with the Palestinians but it has accelerated its "Jordan is Palestine" campaign. Israel's renewed efforts to resettle some 600,000 Soviet Jews in the West Bank and to force Palestinians out of that area into Jordan arouses the fears of Jordanians for the stability of their country.

That Israel's actions are accompanied by a 20 per cent increase in U.S. aid to that country — including a hefty chunk for settling Soviet Jewish immigrants — is also cause for concern in Jordan.

The fact that the United States is doing nothing to ensure Israeli resettlement policy in the occupied West Bank and Gaza nor to stop Israel from violently suppressing the Palestinians' uprising for national democratic rights nor to support Jordan's move towards democratisation is at best puzzling.

Surely if an East European government were behaving in a similar manner (as some have in the recent past) — occupying the territory of another ethnic community while violently suppressing its desire for freedom; threatening to expel the inhabitants and to install its own people in that territory; and doing all this with U.S. funds — we would react differently.

And while we offer assistance to the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe in order to ensure their economic stability, how can we not do the same for Jordan?

Jordan is asking why we have a double standard with regard to democracy in Eastern Europe as opposed to a similar process in the Middle East. It's a question that deserves to be answered.

## Geagea rejects Aoun's ultimatum

(Continued from page 1)

dividing green line.

Heavily armed Lebanese Forces militiamen in olive green fatigues waved the convoy through the port vicinity after the sand barricade was removed.

A token force from Aoun's estimated 19,000-strong army, which was in charge of Beirut port, defected to Geagea's militia a few days after the confrontation broke out Jan. 30.

Archbishop Khalil Abi Nader, the Maronite Catholic spiritual leader for Beirut, sponsored unloading the relief aid at a church in the district of Ashrafieh, a stronghold for Geagea's militia which is besieged by Aoun's troops on several fronts.

"This is aid from man to fellow man. We thank those who helped us," Abi Nader told reporters.

The seminar was organised by the Training and Development Regional Centre for Poultry Industry.

The seminar, opened by Ministry of Agriculture Secretary General Sami Summa, centred on problems of poultry industry in Jordan.

During the seminar, farmers reviewed some of the problems related to veterinary vaccines, efficiency, and use.

Agriculture Ministry officials noted that veterinary vaccines were currently produced at the Jordan Centre for the Production of Veterinary Vaccines with a production capacity of 107 million vaccines, half of which will be used locally.

The farmers, discussed also the problems they face in poultry breeding and marketing.

During the meeting, Summa agreed to form a committee in order to study the percentage of distribution of corn to farmers and to prepare recommendations to find suitable solutions.

The seminar was organised by the Training and Development Regional Centre for Poultry Industry in cooperation with officials at the Ministry of Agriculture and a number of technicians working in the field of poultry.

Geagea's renewed rejection came a day after the general reiterated his proposal that the Lebanese Forces should be transformed into a political organisation and its fighters should join his army.

"They are welcome if they want a political responsibility," Aoun said of Geagea's militia, noting that the fighters "should be integrated into an official apparatus. They are an unacceptable tumor in our body."

Reliable sources said Aoun has threatened to launch a sweeping offensive across Kesrouan province in the Christian heartland north of Beirut to crush the Lebanese Forces if it refused to disband peacefully.

One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Aoun informed the mediation committee of his threat Wednesday.

The committee, which includes three independent Christian figures, "relayed the general's message to Geagea," said the source, close to the committee.

He said the mediators "need a miracle to succeed in their mission."

"We are not in the age of miracles, but one cannot stop hoping," the source noted. He refused to elaborate.

The Lebanese Forces command, in a communique, reported "suspicious troops movements" by Aoun's forces along the eastern and southern flanks of Kesrouan, the militia's main source of support.

The short communique said the militia has taken "all the needed precautionary measures to confront any attempt by Aoun's men to storm through our lines."

## Israeli forces foil Golan protests

(Continued from page 1)

Leadership of the Uprising and the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas movement said the influx of Soviet Jews endangered the survival of the Palestinian people.

"In confronting attempts to settle new Jewish immigrants in our Palestinian state, the Unified Leadership of the Uprising calls on the strike forces to increase attacks on settlers and to burn the land under their feet," one leaflet said.

The hardline Hamas called for severing ties with Washington and branded Moscow "an enemy of the Palestinian cause."

The Islamic group also praised the attack on Israelis in Egypt last week in which nine Israelis and two Egyptian security guards were killed.

"The timing of the bus attack came with the increase in Russian immigration to Palestine, and through such means Jews can be stopped from coming to Palestine."

The Hamas leaflet also called on the PLO to cease contacts with the United States.

Jordan Times  
Tel: 667171



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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## Court system that needs overhaul

THE ONGOING deliberations under the leadership of the minister of justice to modernise court procedures in the Kingdom is a step in the right direction, albeit much overdue. We know only too well that for Jordan's civil and criminal courts to handle adequately and expeditiously the cases now before the defunct martial law court system, they would have to undergo profound improvements.

One of the many shortcomings of existing court procedures in Jordan is the lack of efficiency in the conduct of trials at all levels. To be able to cope with the volume of cases pending and projected to be submitted before Jordan's civil and criminal courts in the wake of the decision to phase out the martial law regime and court system, Jordan's judicial system needs a thorough overhaul and profound changes, especially in court procedures. Otherwise the vacuum created by the abolition of martial law courts can never be filled.

There is no way such overdue improvements can be realised without the introduction of appropriate technology to the court system in Jordan. Unfortunately, however, the centre of attention thus far is to amend existing court procedures as if the problem or the bottleneck in the trial systems in the country are attributed solely to existing laws and procedures. Take for example trial transcripts that are recorded in the same old style which is reminiscent of the days of the Ottoman empire. Here, it is obvious that no amount of change in the laws and trial procedures of the country would do the required job.

Of course serving summons in a more expeditious manner would also go a long way to alleviate the trial impediments. Punctuality in convening court sessions also would help greatly in speeding up trials. Such comprehensive corrections would be the surest way to respond favourably to the old juridical adage which states "justice delayed is justice denied." The volume of trials in the country is simply too big to be dealt with in the same old archaic way. Technology, both in its intellectual and mechanical dimensions, is thus the answer to Jordan's chronic trial delays and deficiencies.

Of course, no one would want the ongoing efforts to modernise court trials and procedures to rest just with the introduction of technology or with punctuality of trials or whatever. The decorum of courts in the country too has a way to go to even reach the most elementary requisites of legal court decorum. Justice must be performed not only in substance but also in form. In deference to another old juridical adage, "justice must not only be done but should also appear to be done." Nowhere in Jordan's present court adjudication can one find such a requirement fulfilled.

In any case, the fact that the concerned Jordanian authorities are now seized with these issues come as a comfort to all citizens, especially those who are either litigants or potential litigants. The actual consequences of the ongoing debate on how best to modernise Jordan's judicial system from head to toe would tell the final story of how serious the country is in wanting to catch up with development, in jurisprudence as well as anything else.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

THE INFUX of Soviet Jews in Palestine and the situation in the occupied Arab territories must have been on the top of priorities for King Hussein and King Fahd at their meeting in Saudi Arabia, Al Ra'i Arabic daily noted in editorial Wednesday. It said that there is no doubt that this is the main challenge for the Arabs and the most pressing danger they are facing at the moment. The paper called for a united Arab front that can rise to the level of this dangerous challenge and to confront this grave situation. The Arab masses realise this obvious fact and can only trust in their leaders to lead them to unity and to strength and solidarity at this critical stage in Arab history, the paper continued. It said that the Jordanian family stands united in a display of great cohesion and support behind its leader King Hussein, and it remains loyal to the monarch who is serving his people and endeavouring to unite the Arab countries in the face of the common threat.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Wednesday urges the concerned authorities to take steps for reviving the civil and military service consumer corporations. In the light of soaring prices and to help the needy and the low-income groups cope with the present economic situation, these consumer corporations ought to be able to offer all sorts of products to the employees at reasonable prices to help them cope, says the writer whose articles appear under the pseudonym Nasik. These corporations have been originally established in Jordan to help the employees whose income is very limited to cope with the soaring prices and the economic situation in the country, and therefore, different commodities needed by these employees ought to be available at very reasonable prices, says the writer. He notes that these consumer corporations had to reduce their operations and services over the past few years in the face of protests and complaints that they were competing with the private sector in trade and commercial dealings, but now the time has come for the concerned authorities to realise that the situation has completely changed and there is bad need for reviving the corporation's role as a means of coming to the aid of the less fortunate groups in one society.

Shamir is now running the show all by himself after the resignation of Ariel Sharon; and the way is now open for him to carry out whatever he sees fit in the course of applying Israeli terrorism and further atrocities in the occupied Arab territories, said Sawi Al Shamir Arabic daily Wednesday. Shamir who always considers Jordan as the key to solutions in the Arab area, and that Jordan should serve as the substitute homeland for the Palestinians is reportedly now making preparations for an aggression on this country, the paper noted.

## Gorbachev secures Western flank amid party struggle at home

By Patrick Wornap  
Reuters

MOSCOW — President Mikhail Gorbachev is acting rapidly to stabilise relations with key Western powers the United States and West Germany as he steers his country towards major reforms that could mean a multi-party democracy.

Decades of prejudice against German reunification were put aside as Gorbachev calmly told Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl at the weekend that it was up to East and West Germany themselves to decide how and at what speed to merge.

And, at talks last week, Soviet and U.S. negotiators sliced through much of the technical detail that is holding up strategic arms (START) talks and, in the words of one U.S. official, "broke the back" of a START treaty.

Gorbachev dealt with Kohl and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker as debate was still raging in

the Soviet Union over a central committee meeting last week that decided to surrender the Communist Party's 70-year monopoly on power.

With the political ferment at home, which also includes ethnic turmoil in the Caucasus and growing separatist trends in the Baltic republics, the Soviet leader has evidently decided this is the time for strong, secure ties with the West.

Commentator Igor Belyayev, speaking on Moscow Radio, expressed a view often heard from Gorbachev supporters that all other problems facing the Soviet people today were outweighed by the outcome of Gorbachev's foreign policy.

"Standing in queues, worrying about shortages, about inter-ethnic problems, I think we should remember that the great achievement of perestroika has been to remove the threat of war which hung over all of us," he said.

Soviet officials are making

clear that the Kremlin has decided some form of German reunification is a foregone conclusion and is already looking to the relationship it will have to forge with the new Germany.

Spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said that at his meeting with Kohl, Gorbachev "expressed the wish that when these changes take place, they will not destroy what has been achieved in our relations, but will enrich our two countries."

Official Soviet reports of the meeting quoted Gorbachev as stressing his bottom line that whatever German arrangement was worked out must preserve European stability, with the concerns of Germany's neighbours taken into account.

Gorbachev's remarks have set the tone for what remains a controversial subject in Moscow, with politburo conservative Yegor Ligachev making clear in the central committee that he regarded the whole idea as highly dangerous.

Other officials have put two specific conditions:

— There must be an acceptable solution to the military balance: Warsaw Pact member East Germany currently hosts 380,000 Soviet troops and West Germany 400,000 foreign NATO troops. Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has stated his preference for German neutrality — rejected by NATO — but has not ruled out other possibilities.

— The Germans must drop any idea of recovering territories lost to Poland and the Soviet Union after World War II.

Although German unity seems to be bearing down fast, with first moves likely after elections in East Germany on March 18, Moscow still appears confident that progress towards a new European security order will be able to cope with the issue.

An East-West force reduction agreement expected later this year will reduce the scale of the military problem by making big cuts in the number of U.S. and

Soviet troops in Germany — probably to about 200,000 men per side.

The agreement will be signed at a summit of the 35 states party to the conference on security and cooperation in Europe, which, both superpowers hope, will speed the transformation of NATO and the Warsaw Pact into mainly political alliances.

Baker, during his Moscow visit, even hinted that Washington might be willing to accept a united Germany that, although linked with NATO, would not be a full member.

The hoped-for troop cut accord now seems almost certain to be completed this year by a U.S.-Soviet START treaty under negotiation since 1982 — that will halve superpower arsenals of long-range nuclear missiles and bombers.

Many of the niggling disputes about verifying cruise missiles, coding test data and counting non-deployed "spare" missiles have been cleared, and both

countries hope to have the treaty outlines ready for their next summit in June.

The summit, which will be held in the United States, is shaping up as another of the set-piece foreign events with which Gorbachev will secure his Western flank, as he battles at home to transform the Soviet political and economic system.

A key point in this strategy will be the next Communist Party congress, now scheduled for the end of June and early July, that will probably witness a showdown between the reformers and the conservatives.

Although no exact date has been fixed for either the congress or the summit, the odds are that the summit will come first.

If so, it will suggest both that Gorbachev hopes to use the summit and the arms control agreements it produces as a weapon against his domestic foes, and that he is confident enough to spend several days abroad in the immediate congress run-up.

## Kashmir: From bricks to Kalashnikovs

By Dilip Ganguly  
The Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India — Three years ago they threw stones at Indian security men. At the first sign of retaliation, they would run for cover and flee into the narrow lanes of Srinagar, only waving clenched fists as a gesture of defiance.

But today's Kashmir militants, most of them in their 20s, flash Kalashnikov rifles and make Molotov cocktails in their homes. Intelligence reports say they have acquired rocket launchers and even Stinger missiles.

Armed Muslim activists campaigning for Kashmir's independence are battling an estimated 40,000 Indian soldiers.

"India now faces the risk of fighting a prolonged guerrilla war in Kashmir," said a retired colonel of the Indian army. "And like most other guerrilla war situations, the odds are in favour of the terrorists." He spoke on condition of anonymity.

"Over the years these terrorists have graduated into becoming real fighters, not in the conventional sense, but as guerrillas," said Jitendra Narain Saxena, the director general of Jammu-Kashmir's 40,000-man police force.

"Before the police could just scare them away. But today they stand up and try to defy," Saxena said.

Saxena would not discuss the reasons for the change of mood in Kashmir, where analysts say India faces the toughest challenge to its unity in the country's 42 years of independence.

But Gov. Jagmohan, the area's administrator, ruled out any threat to India's sovereignty.

"The issue is very simple," he said in an interview at his home guarded by Indian troops manning light machine gun positions behind bunkers. "There was lack of economic development, peo-

ple are frustrated."

"Once we set things right, Kashmir will again become *jannat* (heaven)," said Jagmohan, who uses only one name.

In the wave of separatist violence that began Jan. 20 with the arrest of over 250 people, at least 82 people have died. Jagmohan, a Hindu known as a tough administrator, ordered the Jan. 20 crackdown.

The killings and open defiance by the militants triggered a near panic in the administration. Curfew was imposed for days, the army was called out and foreign journalists expelled from the state. Curfew passes granted to local journalists were withdrawn and Indian journalists working for foreign media were confined to hotels.

Jammu-Kashmir, home of 6 million people, is India's only Muslim majority state.

Nationwide, Muslims account for about 11 per cent of the country's 890 million people. But in the Kashmir valley, the stronghold of the militants, Muslims make up 94 per cent of the 3.5 million people.

Kashmir became part of the Mogul empire when Akbar invaded the area in 1586. The Afghans annexed it in 1756. The Sikhs came in 1819. A Hindu king took it over in 1846.

When Britain divided the subcontinent in 1947 into Islamic Pakistan and Hindu-dominated India, Kashmir was given the choice to either remain independent or join either of the two nations. After initial hesitation, the king joined India and triggered a Pakistani armed invasion.

A brief war followed and India claims that of the state's 222,236 square kilometres, Pakistan is in "illegal occupation" of 78,932 square kilometres. New Delhi also alleges that Pakistan gave 42,735 square kilometres of terri-

tory to China when Islamabad and Beijing signed a boundary agreement.

"We are giving too much importance to the terrorists," said a senior Indian intelligence officer in Kashmir.

"There is no way that they can fight the Indian forces to a decisive battle," the officer said on condition of anonymity.

But the officer, who coordinates the state's intelligence network, acknowledged the militants have an advantage at the moment.

"How do you fight them?" he asked. "In guerrilla warfare, there is no clear cut victory or defeat."

What is worrying the administration is the growing popularity of the militants and their call for independence.

Intelligence reports attribute the popularity to fear. But many, including some junior government officials and some Kashmir police, admit privately that even if they do not support the militants, they do not oppose them either.

"In Kashmir today everyone, even a 10-year-old boy, is in favour of independence," said Maulvi Mohammad Farooq, the chief Muslim cleric of Kashmir.

Behind a graveyard in the old Srinagar district, 11-year-old Riaz Sheikh fondles his toy Kalashnikov and waits for his friends. Not to play, but to discuss how to become Muslim warriors.

Before we played cricket, but now we talk about how to liberate Kashmir from India," said Riaz, whose brother, Hamid Sheikh, a top militant leader, was shot and wounded by the police.

"If police actions are not stopped, I have to ask the people to join the armed struggle," the 45-year-old Farooq said in an interview at his fortified home in Srinagar.

## French fear German economic domination

By Alan Wheatley  
Reuters

PARIS — Officially, France sees upheaval in Eastern Europe as a great commercial opportunity. But unofficially, age-old fears of German economic domination have resurfaced — the French fear they may in the end be big losers.

Not only are French companies dragging their feet in the great rush East, but the prospect of a West German economic boom points to a widening growth gap with France and an even greater role for the mark within the EC's European monetary system (EMS).

"The events in the East will reinforce the polarisation of the EMS around the mark," Christian de Boissieu, a professor at the University of Paris, told a conference here last week on the economic impact of the political upheaval in the East bloc.

To dilute growing German influence, France should push for quicker implementation of the Delors report on European economic and monetary union. "It's the only way for France to live with this asymmetry," de Boissieu said.

Jean-Paul Fitoussi of the Observatoire Français des Conjonctures Economiques (OFCE), an independent research group, has tried to quantify how much West Germany stands to gain.

East bloc changes were likely to boost West Germany's gross national product by 3.5 percentage points by 1993, while the rest of the European Community would grow by only an extra 1.5 points, he told the conference.

French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy says he is not worried by the growing momentum for German monetary union, calling it inevitable. But he said that he expected to be consulted by Bonn on its offer to hold immediate talks on monetary union.

"I am waiting for explanations from the West German government," Bérégovoy said.

For reasons of history, geography and industrial strength, France is not as well placed as West Germany for the race East.

French exports to centrally planned economies have been running at about three billion francs (\$355 million) a month, around three per cent of total exports.

Raymond Courbis, director of economic research firm Gama, said France was unable to capitalise fully on bigger market opportunities because its industry was already running flat out.

"The impact on the French economy will be limited because of capacity constraints," he said. Nor are French companies rushing into joint ventures or massive direct investment in Eastern Europe.

Among the best publicised deals, state-owned computer group Compagnie des Machines Bull is investing 600 million francs (\$107 million) in Hungary, construction giant Bouygues is building a hospital near Moscow and hotel group Accor is venturing into the Soviet Union, Poland and Hungary.

But French plans pale beside those of West German firms, which have already announced plans to pour billions of marks into East Germany and other reforming East European economies.

Vehicle-maker Renault has signed a draft accord to assemble vans in Czechoslovakia from the end of 1992, said Chairman Raymond Levy is cautious about East bloc business prospects. "We're not going to rush in," he told Reuters recently.

The head of a state-owned bank, who declined to be identi-

fied, was even more sceptical. "There are only two countries in which it's worth investing in Eastern Europe — Hungary and the Soviet Union," he said in a recent conversation.

French food industry executives are not licking their lips either, even though East European consumers have been starved of the sort of fine food for which France is famous.

Lionel Zimov-Derfin, strategy and development director at food conglomerate BSN, said his company was exploring opportunities on Eastern Europe, especially East Germany.

But he saw a host of barriers to

overcome — lack of skilled labour, poor distribution networks, an irrational price system and the risk that latent hyperinflation may spark social unrest.

In many ways, he told the conference, the economies of Eastern Europe are like developing countries and face a long haul to prosperity. "It's going to take a lot longer than economic circumstances would lead you to believe," he said.

Although none of the conference speakers could refute the BSN manager, Fitoussi of OFCE commented, "I'm worried that these attitudes are spreading quickly among French firms."

### LETTERS

#### Objective reporting

To the Editor:

ON behalf of hundreds of Petra Bank employees, we thank you and Sama Atyeh for the article published in the Jordan Times on Feb. 3, 1990 regarding Petra Bank's issue.

We wish to confirm that your article was true and complete compared to other newspapers.

It is a fair and objective article since it covered the opinion of different parties involved. Congratulations.

(25) signatures

#### Let individual decide

To the Editor:

THE central issue behind the exchange of letters between Chaire de la Plume and E. Yaghi (Letters to the Editor, Jordan Times Jan. 25, Feb. 6, 1990) is not the question of whether alcoholic beverages should continue to be served on Royal Jordanian or whether democracy is confused with "the freedom of the press or of evil." The issue confronting the Jordanian people is religious tolerance.

His Majesty King Hussein has recognised that the strength and future of Jordan lies in pluralism. Jordanians are of different ethnic and religious origins; they are drawn from many different points on the compass to become one community of citizens. The cornerstone of pluralism is religious tolerance, the recognition that individual religions have sometimes different codes of behaviour.

Love of one's own religion should not descend into becoming disrespect and criticism of those of other faiths. I do not believe E. Yaghi meant to imply that there is some relation between the religious codes, other than Islam's and "the imitation of bad morals."

Those who seek to force Jordanians into one mould only help to split us into fragments, making us easy prey for our enemies under whose policy of "divide and rule" we suffered for over four decades.

Governments, their agencies, and public institutions, such as Royal Jordanian, should be neither the interpreters nor the enforcers of religious belief. In Islam, we have the ulamas of the faith. Nothing else is required.

If Chaire de la Plume wants to have an apéritif on an RJ flight, let her. I find no offense in that. Her example will not force me to drink. Only those who want to be offended will be. I do not need a parliamentarian or a bureaucrat to intervene. E. Yaghi, as an American, should know that once begun, government intervention knows no limits.

Abu Dharar  
Amman.

#### Quality control

To the Editor,

IN an article published in the Jordan Times on Feb. 8, concerning the lifting of a ban on the importation of apples to Jordan, I noticed with regret that the article contained incorrect information about apples imported from Turkey. I am sure you are aware subject to quality control at various customs posts, where only apples meeting the specifications are exported.

The claims that deficiencies in the exported material — that might occur after making the quality control check by export authorities — is related to the place of origin, and the publishing of such news that imply shortcomings on behalf of the exporter are only incorrect and lack accuracy.

I am confident that your newspaper seriously wishes to promote and enhance economic and trade relations between our two countries. However, because such inaccurate information could on me to request you to be extremely careful when publishing such news and to exercise more responsible journalism.

Ilbrahim Onlo  
Economic and Commercial Counselor  
Turkish Embassy, Amman





From left to right: Inger Lise Gjør, president of Norway's first chamber; Helene Mignon, French parliament; Monika Gansel, German MP; Karla Feij, Dutch MP; Huberte Hanquet, Belgian senator; and Helen Boim, Denmark.

## Palestinian issue: A time bomb that's ticking

By Philippa Neave

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM** — In Gaza, the water tastes salty, and most of the land is parched. Yet, about one third of the 362 square kilometres of the Gaza Strip is lush and green. The green areas are surrounded by barbed wire and electronic security devices: that's where 18 Jewish settlements are home to a total of 2,200 people. Packed into the rest of the space in squalid refugee camps that have one of the highest population densities in the world are an estimated 800,000 Palestinians.

The deep wells bored by the Israeli settlers have caused the shallower Palestinian wells to dry up and have caused increasing salinization. According to a recent United Nations study titled "The Palestinian Economy Under the Israeli Occupation," out of total annual supplies of 800 million cubic metres of water, Palestinians in the occupied territories (Gaza Strip plus the West Bank) are allowed to use only 110 million cubic metres, despite the rapid growth of the population. "Palestinians are not permitted to use their water resources for the development of their economy," the study notes, and increasing salinization has impaired the quality of citrus fruits which were one of the main sources of livelihood.

Earning a living in Gaza is not easy. There is no industry to speak of and that is why close to 100,000 Palestinians work in Israel. Or rather, worked. Many of these people, who constitute a major source of cheap labour for Israel, have been on strike for the best part of two years, since the intifada or Palestinian uprising began. Others, who don't want or can't afford to observe the strike orders, are not necessarily free to work any way. A few months ago, the Israeli authorities introduced a controversial system to control Gazans: Anyone who wants to leave the area must have a magnetic I.D. card. It looks like a credit card with the holder's picture on it and enables the authorities to monitor an individual's movements. It is similar to the system used for prisoners

in "half-way houses" in some Western countries.

Obtaining the new card is difficult, partly because the individual must not feature on any of the authorities' "black lists." With close to 40,000 arrests recorded since the beginning of the uprising, most Palestinian men find it difficult to keep off the dreaded lists — sometimes being stopped for an I.D. check is enough to be listed as a security threat.

A delegation of Western European parliamentarians who recently toured Gaza and the West Bank were shocked to see that their Palestinian driver, although a U.N. employee, was required to show his magnetic card. The six-member delegation comprising women parliamentarians from

Israel's Labour Party (Knesset) in the Labour Party told the delegation that it was "no use for Europe to keep on putting pressure on the Israeli government."

At the same time, she acknowledged that "the right wing, the Likud Party, does not want negotiations, they won't give an inch." Although there are some signs of change within the Likud, she added, "especially the younger people around (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir," she is sceptical that the hard-line Israeli prime minister would ever change his position.

According to Arad, the Labour Party which is the junior partner in the current government coalition, holds no real sway in the country's foreign policy. "For

"The economic situation I have seen is shocking. The Israelis make Palestinians pay taxes but do not use any of that money to build or improve infrastructure. The economic oppression is terrifying: the Israelis can cut off water and electricity supplies, they refuse to issue permits for industrial construction. With the financial restrictions, Palestinians have no way of raising capital."

France, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Germany and Holland, was on a fact-finding, seven-day mission organised by the Brussels-based Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation.

Most were visiting the area for the first time. After two nights in Gaza, the delegation toured the West Bank, visiting villages and refugee camps. They also met Palestinian as well as Israeli leaders.

One purpose of the visit was to consider what role Western Europe could play to help find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Nava Arad, a member of the

some of us, the only option if the peace process does not move forward will be to leave the government," she said. She identified herself as part of a group of 17 out of the 39 Labour Knesset members who are pushing for more dialogue with Palestinians.

Willing to discuss politics with her European counterparts, Arad refused to comment on the issue of human rights abuses by Israeli forces, detentions without trial, military brutality and the growing problems of appalling living conditions in the Palestinian refugee camps.

The delegation had plenty of opportunity to assess these condi-

tions. Inger Lise Gjør, president of Norway's First Chamber and a member of the Labour Party, commented: "What I have seen is too bad; from a human point of view, it cannot be defended. People in Gaza and the West Bank live in conditions that are not bearable for me. I understand the Israeli problem, but I think they are over-doing it." Added the 51-year-old politician who has been in parliament since 1977: "I am very pessimistic. I see no real way to find a solution on the Israeli side. I don't know how the Israelis think they have time when there is so much going wrong."

One of the problems brought to the attention of the delegation as it toured the occupied territories was the increasing number of Israeli settlements built there. Since occupying troops arrived in 1967, 52 per cent of the territory has been expropriated by the Israelis for military purposes, to build settlements and roads. Practically every hilltop in the West Bank is crowned by a cluster of white houses with red roofs in a style totally alien to the local architecture. In addition, Israel reportedly plans to install in the occupied territories a large number of the 700,000 Soviet Jews it is trying to attract to the country.

"Every time a new settlement is created, an additional difficulty is set in the path of peace," Gjør said. "The authorities are using the settlements to make it more difficult to reach a political solution. I get the impression the Likud really plans to stay in the territories."

The European parliamentarians are also concerned by the economic situation, in particular since the EEC is trying to ensure that a direct trade agreement signed with Palestinian producers in October 1988 is respected by the Israeli authorities, which has not always been the case. "Israel has practised a policy of selective opening of the occupied territories' trade channels in a manner that ensures the greatest possible benefit for Israeli economic interests, with only incidental regard for Palestinian development concerns," the U.N. report on the Palestinian economy points out.

European Parliament member Karla Feij, 45, from Holland, noted: "The economic situation I have seen is shocking. The Israelis make Palestinians pay taxes but do not use any of that money to build or improve infrastructure. The economic oppression is terrifying: the Israelis can cut off the water and electricity supplies, they refuse to issue permits for industrial construction. With the financial restrictions, Palestinians have no way of raising capital."

According to the U.N. report, "the continued stagnation of Palestinian industry might have been avoided were it not for the impact of Israeli policies... The Israeli authorities have also ap-

plied a range of measures which have acted to curb industrial development."

The all-female Parliamentary Association delegation also met a group of Palestinian and Israeli women who are working together for peace. The seven women involved — four Palestinians and three Israelis — stressed the important role women may have in the peace process. Naomi Khasan, a well-known activist and professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, explained: "The problem with the Israeli peace movement is its fragmentation and lack of strategy. We are trying to expand horizontally and reach influential women who are closer to decision-making centres."

Asked for her comments at the end of the visit, German MP Monika Gansel, 48, said: "I admire the Palestinians for resisting with such solidarity, realism and almost no violence. They have been using stones, flags and burning tyres for over two years, it is very contained but I don't know how long it can last."

"Something must be done quickly to change the life of people in the occupied territories. The human rights situation is so bad, we cannot wait for a political solution. If the peace process does not move forward, the hard-liners on both the Palestinian and Israeli side will win, and in the end both sides will lose," she added.

Huberte Hanquet, 63, president of the Foreign Affairs Commission in the Belgian Senate, stressed: "It has become more urgent than ever to find a solution. Seen from inside the occupied territories, it does not look as though many Israelis are aware of the reality of the despicable conditions people live in. The situation is pressing and dangerous."

Although each of the delegates said they were committed to taking some form of action at national level back home, by spreading information and raising the issue at the highest level of foreign policy-making, each admitted that Europe can do little to further the peace process outside the framework of an international peace conference. "One gets the impression that Israel doesn't give a damn what Europe thinks or advises," French parliamentarian Helene Mignon, 56, commented.

The delegates were unanimous in their views as to what the solution should be. Some were sceptical about its feasibility, but they agreed with Gansel's summation up: "The solution is very simple. There will have to be two states. The Palestinian and Israeli states will have to work together. They cannot live without each other." Concluded Hanquet: "Israel is a country that has always claimed to be democratic. It will have to accept a democratic solution" — World News Link.



Two children in Gaza refugee camp survey the ruins of a neighbour's house blown up by Israeli occupation forces as a form of reprisal.

## Canadian — new cure for illiteracy

By Anthony Parry  
Reuter

**TORONTO** — Salvation is at hand for the struggling illiterates of the world. Battered by grammar and befuddled by spelling, they can learn "Canadian."

Toronto schoolteacher Ted Culp argues that English just isn't good enough. Its grammar is too illogical and its spelling maddeningly bizarre.

So he's invented a new improved version, which may look rigid and peculiar, he admits, but has the benefits of simplicity and consistency.

"Canadian," a language so far known and loved by only a few enthusiasts in Toronto, will sweep the world, making it child's play to learn to read and write, Culp says.

He is determined to succeed where George Bernard Shaw and Lazarus Zamenhof, inventor of the international language Esperanto, both failed.

"We must move quickly to adopt the new language, and not to prolong the linguistic agony," he writes in the newsletter of the "International Union for the Canadian Language."

The most important step is spelling, according to Culp.

Out goes the illogical letter q you write kwik (quick) and kwiet (quiet). All silent letters are also out, if you don't say them, don't spell them.

Then there's the grammar. Out go all differences in verb conjugations. Combine the future tense and the verb of necessity and it looks like this: "They will must to go."

Very strange at first, but very easy once you get the hang of it, Culp says.

"Everybody recognises there is a problem," the tall, bespectacled academic said. "I know the way. I consider myself to be a prophet."

"English is the world international language but it won't hold its position in the cybernetic age. French and German didn't hold their position. I am suggesting 'Canadian' will replace English."

But what about the joys of Shakespeare and the wealth of other literature lost to those who abandon English?

The sacrifice is worth it, Culp says. Lost literature is a small price to pay for the new language, which will solve the problems of slow learners and help scientists whose language skills are poor because languages are so irrational, he says.

Culp, last seen carrying a teach-yourself-Bengali textbook in his large and crumpled briefcase, has learnt from the language mistakes of reformers who went before him.

Shaw, the Irish dramatist and critic, failed because he wanted to introduce a completely new alphabet, which was too large a leap for the common man.

Esperanto, the simple language invented by Zamenhof, a Polish oculist, blossomed at first but has wilted because no one uses it in everyday life.

"Canadian" has no such problems, Culp says. It uses the English alphabet and "Canadians (already) speak 'canadian'."

Culp's endeavours are not just for the benefit of English speakers, however. He has also invented a simple form of French — Toronto french, or le Fransais-Torontois.

Randa Habib's  
Corner

## What is democracy?

EACH nation has its own definition of democracy.

The Greeks, who invented the word simply defined it as "the people's rule." Americans say democracy is the rule of the people, for the people, by the people.

Cynics say democracy is the rule by everybody, meaning nobody. Satirists describe democracy as the bludgeoning of the people, for the people, by the people.

I was wondering what our definition of democracy is, assuming that democracy describes what we have achieved today. I am sure if we asked the Lower House of Parliament Speaker about his definition, he would say that democracy is allowing all deputies to speak their minds as long as they have something worth saying. He has demonstrated his absolute conviction of this definition by asking deputies to stop talking while he interrupted them.

If we asked the Prime Minister about his definition of democracy he would probably say that democracy is letting everybody speak their minds at all times, without any inhibitions, as long as that will not change anything on the ground, provided the executive branch approves of it or it gets an overwhelming majority in the house.

If you ask me — not that you have any choice — I would say democracy is saying what I said above and getting it published, undistorted and without receiving a call from a stranger inviting me for a friendly chat over a cup of coffee. See you next Thursday — I hope.

## Worrying about health can make a society sick

By Daniel Callahan

**BRIARCLIFF MANOR, New York** — Forget oat bran; forget even cholesterol. Chocolate sun-dae are good for you and fatty steaks even better. Or maybe that was true last month, but not this month. This month the word is that the asbestos that has been removed from pipes and walls at a cost of millions might not be so hazardous after all. And what was thought wonderful, fluoridated water, may have spared people's teeth but exposed them to cancer.

Just what the truth is here, I cannot pretend to know. What I do know is that Americans seem breathless to get the latest word. They act as if a failure to get the right information on oats, or asbestos, or salt, will make the difference between life and death. Perhaps it will, but it is at least as certain that the passion for daily updates on such matters has itself become a kind of sickness.

It is a sickness worth worrying about, and for three reasons. The first is the high cost of health care, a cost driven in part by intense patient demand for the highest quality care and the meeting of each and every health care need. When that demand is married to high-tech medicine, a powerful engine for driving up costs is set in motion. Americans have come to expect their lives to be saved, young and old, whatever the costs.

The second reason for worry is the growing aversion to any and all human risks. While the malpractice crisis in medicine is often blamed on greedy lawyers or bungling doctors, a most important but overlooked factor is that juries have become ever more sympathetic to claims of harm and injury. This reflects a belief that if anything goes wrong, it must be someone's fault. And someone has to recompense the victim.

The third cause for worry is that the obsession with illness and aversion to risk create a steady state of anxiety. If we look on the world as full of hazards to our health, constantly out to get us, there is no end to the defenses we

can try to erect — and no end to the way in which, sooner or later, those defenses must fail.

It is perfectly true that the hazards to health are multiple, and there is something to the paranoia that nature is out to get us. But it is no less true that even if an American has only a moderate interest in good health, his or her chances of living to old age are extraordinarily high.

More subtle than anxiety is the way a constant worry about sickness can distort self-understanding. As Dr. Arthur Barsky has put it in his penetrating book, "worried sick: Our Troubled Quest for Wellness": "The more carefully we scrutinize ourselves for ailments, the more things we find wrong with us. The more we diet, the more frustrated we become with our flab. Though we live longer, we feel older sooner... The more we equate health with total well-being, the more pervasive illness becomes."

Most middle-class Americans are in fine shape, perfectly able to work, to love and to play. Yet Americans continue to pour money into medical research and care as if the country were in the midst of a great plague. America probably already has a sufficiently high level of general health for most purposes. If, through national health insurance, the poor could be taken care of, Americans would then have more than enough.

Since we all know people who are sick and dying, how can I say such a thing? I say it because illness, decline and death are part of the human experience, an integral part of our very biology. No matter how much medical progress we make, there will always be people who are ill and dying — later rather than sooner, one hopes, but always inevitably. The task of keeping people alive, of curing their ills, is endless and infinite. Whatever we do, there will always be more to be done, and then more still.

We Americans need to come to grips with this reality. The failure to confront it helps to explain why we remain dissatisfied in the face of great progress, why we can feel at risk despite good health. — The Los Angeles Times.

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## 'East European economies to join West'

"We do not like the Chinese model quite frankly and for that reason we are looking for other avenues so that these economic zones would not have to be a foreign body in our country," Ryzhkov said.

"We know we have to do this, but the question is how," Ryzhkov said. Australian involvement in the Soviet-Pan Eastern would be welcomed as his country's economic relationship with Japan remained stagnant because of a sovereignty dispute over the Kurile islands to the north of Japan.

The Soviet Union claimed the islands, which historically were governed by Japan, after World War II.

Ryzhkov said he hoped current negotiations would prevail and lead to stronger ties with Japan.

It also contributed to Africa's unenviable role as an exporter of capital. Last year the continent channelled abroad in debt repayments and other transfers about \$5.5 billion more than it received from overseas.

Referring to the sweeping changes in Eastern Europe, Adedeji said: "One hopes that all of us will learn a lesson from it in Africa, and that governments will facilitate as rapidly as possible the evolution of an environment conducive to popular participation. Addressing some of these problems should start to dampen the fight of people and of capital."

**KUALA LUMPUR [K]** — Malaysian Foreign Minister **Abu Hassan** has said that Kuala Lumpur will host the first meeting of the Group of 15 (G-15) developing countries in June. **Abu Hassan** said in a statement the meeting would be attended by leaders of the 15 member countries — Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe. The Group of 15 is the summit-level group for South-South cooperation formed at the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Belgrade last year. "The group is intended to be a forum for regular consultation on key issues facing developing countries and to promote effective South-South consultation and cooperation as well as North-South relations," **Abu Hassan** said. **Abu Hassan** said the agenda for the inaugural meeting would be fixed later, but Malaysian foreign ministry officials said Third World debt and trade are expected to be the main issues.

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

*By Reuters*

**SYDNEY** — Heavy turnover in banking shares dominated trading in an otherwise featureless day. The All Ordinaries Index closed 8.5 points higher at 1,636.7, its high for the day.

**TOKYO** — Last-minute index-linked buying by foreign brokerage and investment trust funds pulled prices marginally firmer at the close. Saging bond prices and pre-election worries kept most investors sidelined. The Nikkei Index rose 48.86 to 37,155.89.

**HONG KONG** — Blue chips closed steady to firmer in a market lacking clear direction, with strong support emerging at the lows. The Hang Seng Index rose 6.88 to 2,870.43.

**SINGAPORE** — Share prices closed lower for the second day on profit-taking after a recent bullish run. The Straits Times Industrial Index fell 11.18 to 1,564.70.

**BOMBAY** — Share prices held modest gains on a broad front at close after a strong early rally was quickly followed by profit-taking.

**FRANKFURT** — Shares fell gently in thin trade after a dearth of follow-up orders short-circuited the market's initially positive mood. The DAX was off 8.75 at 1,832.23.

**ZURICH** — Shares edged lower after a firmer opening. Early buying leveled off on lack of follow-through orders. The SFI Index closed 2.1 points lower at 1,116.3.

**PARIS** — French share prices ended slightly up but dealers remained sceptical on the market's outlook. The CAC-40 index ended 8.56 points up at 1,853.00.

**LONDON** — Shares were stable below session highs, but lacked a trend towards the end of a dull day. By 1616 GMT the FTSE was up 5.4 points at 2,298.6.

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

© 1980 by Comics Syndicate, Inc. HARRIS 1-18

"I like being married to you, but  
is it really fair to all the  
other women in the world?"

---

## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles,  
one letter to each square, to form  
four ordinary words.

HYSYL

REDEL

FLEMUF

THORAU

THEY SAID SHE WAS  
BEAUTIFUL BUT  
NOT QUITE THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to  
form the surprise answer, as sug-  
gested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: "                         "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TEASE CHALK EXCISE DREDGE  
Answer: That so-called comedian had them "in the  
rises" --- HEADED FOR THE EXITS

**Peanuts**

SIR, ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE A VALENTINE TO CHARLES?

I DON'T KNOW... I HATE TO WASTE A VALENTINE ON SOMEONE I CAN STRIKE OUT ON THREE STRAIGHT PITCHES...

2-12 © 1982 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

**Mutt n' Jeff**

YOU'RE GONNA BE A SCHOOL TEACHER? WHY, YOU CAN'T EVEN SPELL "COW!"

I CAN TOO! K-O-O!

HOW CAN A BOOB LIKE YOU BE A SCHOOL TEACHER WHEN YOU CAN'T EVEN SPELL "COW"?

I CAN SPELL IT! I'LL BET YOU FIVE BUCKS I CAN!

O.K. SPELL IT!

C-O-W!

THAT AIN'T THE WAY YOU SPELLED IT BEFORE!

WELL, I WASN'T BETTING BEFORE!

8-19

**Andy Capp**

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO HAVE A LITTLE SPREE OR GET SOME PRIZES IN BUCKS TONIGHT, PET.

I'VE TOLD ALL MY RELATIVES YOU'RE IN THE FINAL PET EVERY ONE OF 'EM IS GOING TO COME ALONG AND WATCH YOU!

NO KIDDING? EVERY ONE OF 'EM?

I'M TELLING YOU!

OH-OH! FIFTY-SEVEN CRITICS



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY 15, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You can make plans for a trip with two friends. Get your home organized on a more well rounded basis. Home is where the heart is for you today.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) A good friend will help you with a very big problem. Use some of your assets to do some improvements on your residence for beauty.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Charm your family now by giving them some thoughtful presents. A woman will aid you in putting your points across with your loved one.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Don't let some problem keep you from seeing and enjoying a friend you like. Rely more on a woman at home to handle things that you need to have done.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Complicate your friends today for any criticism given could cause problems. You and your attachment should be more open to seeing more individuals.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 21) If you have been planning a home addition, start it now. A family member will now get along very well with your attachment.

**LIBRA:** (September 22 to October 22) A highly influential person can now become a very good friend. Discuss whatever vacation plans you have with your attachment.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Accept the invitations of a younger friend for an enjoyable time out. Your attachment will give a broad hint on how you can best please him/her.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) You need to be very active in which friends you see at this time. Add beauty and color at your residence for more harmony.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Your mutual business ideas can be just great for you now. Little courtesies will now most improve your attachment.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Many friends will now vie to entertain you with lavish attention. Invite anyone in your home who is able to aid you in business plans.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) A non-complacent and gentle attitude is suggested at home now. There will be much vitality in your emotional relationship now.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY 16, 1990

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) A couple from a distance will have excellent advice for your future. Be cautious about your romantic expressions today toward loved one.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Make peace with a friend with whom you have had some friction. Reaching something special to your attachment brings much happiness.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Be off with close friends to see interesting companions nearby.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Do invite an interesting group into your home at this time.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Discussing practical matters with friends can be very helpful now. Be off and about to interesting activities with your attachment.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 21) Don't judge a friend harshly for you do not have all the facts. Restlessness at home requires that you and your family get out of the house.

**LIBRA:** (September 22 to October 22) Do nothing now that would cause business persons to think you are cheap. Not the day to concede on expenditures at home.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Going down treat with your friends now would keep worthwhile friendships intact. Take your attachment in article of beauty or color.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Now would be a good time to join an organization with friends you like.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) A time when you need to keep your temper under control when with your friends. Get all possible business data that you require from experts.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) A very good day for you to invite and entertain friends in your home.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Try to use your duties from a broader more comprehensive viewpoint.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF

1988 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

## WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

**Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠ Q6 ♠ Q96 ♠ J72  
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What action do you take?  
A.—If there is a worst eight-point hand around, we haven't seen it! Even if partner has a maximum 18, we doubt whether he'll be able to come to nine tricks opposite this collection, which might not furnish more than one entry. Pass.

**Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠ Q73 ♠ Q872 ♠ J8652 ♠ 5  
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What action do you take?  
A.—At no trump, your hand might not take even a single trick. It will surely play better in a suit contract, where you can at least pick up a couple of ruffs. Bid two clubs, asking for a major suit, and pass whatever partner responds. At the very worst, you'll have a seven-card fit, and on a lucky day it will be better than that.

**Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠ K5 ♠ A103 ♠ AQ9842 ♠ K3  
What is your opening bid?  
A.—Suppose you were to open one diamond and partner were to respond one spade; what would you do then? There is no satisfactory action. Simply pretend that your low diamond is a low club and get the hand off your chest with a descriptive bid of one no trump.

**Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠ Q106 ♠ J752 ♠ K10 ♠ K984

Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?  
A.—With nine points and a ruffing value, you are worth a move. But don't invite game by bidding two no trump. Look for a 4-4 heart fit by bidding two clubs. If partner should respond two hearts, your hand reveals to 11 points and becomes worth a jump to game. If he bids anything else, be content with two no trump.

**Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ A7432 ♠ 73 ♠ KQ43 ♠ A7  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass  
What do you bid now?  
A.—The way most experts treat this sequence, you would rebid two spades with a six-card suit and a minimum, but show a four-card minor if the hand is better-than-minimum. Since you would open this hand even without the king of diamonds, you should, therefore, rebid two diamonds.

**Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ A7432 ♠ 73 ♠ KQ43 ♠ A7  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass  
What action do you take?  
A.—Unlike a minor, you should not suppress a four-card major—especially a very good one. Therefore, rebid two hearts regardless of the strength of your hand.

## Samaranch arrives in Amman

**AMMAN (Petra)** — International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch and Asian Olympic Council President Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah Wednesday arrived in Amman on a three-day official visit on an invitation from Minister of Youth and President of the Jordanian Olympic Committee (JOC) Ibrahim Al Ghababeh.

Samaranch told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that he will discuss with Jordanian officials ways to promote and bolster cooperation between IOC and JOC.

Samaranch expressed his hope that his visit to Jordan

will benefit the sports movement in the Kingdom. His visit as IOC president is the first since the international committee was founded more than 100 years ago.

Sheikh Fahd said that Samaranch's visit to Jordan shows that the Arab sports movements are taking its real status among the countries of the world.

Samaranch and Sheikh Fahd were received at the airport by Chief Chamberlain Prince Raed Ibn Zaid, Ghababeh, the Ministry of Youth's secretary general Anas Ghababeh and JOC secretary general Abdulrahman Abu Nwar.

## Virginia Slims:

## Navratilova beats Temesvari

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Martina Navratilova did as expected as she overpowered Hungary's Andrea Temesvari, 6-1, 6-3, in first-round action at the Virginia Slims of Chicago.

But Linda Harvey-Wild, a pro for only a week, got her "biggest victory ever" as she upset French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez 6-3, 7-6 (7-5), earlier Tuesday.

In a mild upset, the sixth seed, Natalia Zvereva, of the Soviet Union, fell to the world's 49th best player, Kathy Rinaldi, 7-5, 3-6, 6-1, in the day's final match. Rinaldi fell behind 5-3 in the opening set, but rallied to win the next four games and the set.

Her first serves and combination of passing shots and overhead volleys proved to be Zvereva's undoing. Navratilova, ranked number two in the world behind Steffi Graf and the Chicago tournament's top seed, was able to exploit mistakes made by Temesvari, ranked 44th, in the 59-minute match.

Temesvari stuck close to the baseline, but by weakly return corner shots, she set up Navratilova

blasts that were out of reach. "It was a good first round test for me," said Navratilova. "I had to be sharp for those matches."

Navratilova is seeking her eighth Virginia Slims of Chicago title.

In the biggest upset of the first round, Harvey-Wild, 18, took a 6-1 lead in the tiebreaker before losing the next four points. But Sanchez, the world's fifth-ranked player, then double-faulted on match point.

"Sure, it was my biggest victory ever, and I don't think it's sunk in yet," said Harvey-Wild, ranked 154th in the world.

Sanchez admitted she played poorly. "I need a lot of work on my service," she said. Earlier, seventh-seeded Laura Gildemeister of Peru beat Gretchen Magers 6-1, 6-7 (4-7, 6-4); Tami Whittinger beat Hu Na 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 in a battle of qualifiers; Susan Sloane defeated Linda Ferrando of Italy 6-4, 6-1; and Nathalie Tauziat of France downed Isabel Cueto of West Germany 6-4, 6-1.

## WORLD CUP SWIMMING:

## Australians dominate events

**GOTEBORG, Sweden (AP)** — Australia, led by Glen Housman, won four events to dominate the first day's events at the Swedish open-world cup swim meet Tuesday.

Housman finished strongly to win the 1,500-metre freestyle in 15 minutes, 26.48 seconds, beating Canadian runnerup Paul Deshaies by more than five seconds.

Housman, a 17-year-old Queenslander, swam the fastest 1,500 ever during a qualifying heat in the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand recently. But his time of 14:53.49, just under Soviet Vladimir Salnikov's world record, was not recognised because of technical problems during the race.

Other Australian male winners were Robert Bruce, who captured the 200 medley in 2:06.12 just ahead of Canada's Jon Kelly, and Andrew Baldon, who won the 50 free in 22.82. Johanna Griggs picked up the remaining victory for Australia, taking the women's 100-metre backstroke in 1:05.32.

Few American swimmers were

in action Tuesday and Tracey McFarlane was the only U.S. winner, clocking 1:12.24 in the 100-metre breaststroke.

Canada scored a 1-2 finish in the women's 400 free. Stephanie Shewchuk edged Erin Holland for the victory in 4:23.26.

Mark Tewksbury won the men's 50-metre backstroke in 26.36 for the only other Canadian triumph. Sweden's Anders Holmertz, the world's hottest swimmer in recent weeks, turned in a 1:49.65 in winning the men's 200 free. Soviet Vladimir Tayanovich was second, one second behind.

Earlier this month, Holmertz set a world best in the 400 free in a 25-metre pool in Paris. In another race, Tuesday, Evgeny Kotyagin of the Soviet Union missed the European record in the 50-metre butterfly by 19 hundredths of a second as he recorded a time of 24.80.

The meet continues in the 50-metre Valhalla Pool Wednesday. Swimmers from more than 20 nations are competing.

## Douglas-Tyson II comes close to clearing hurdle

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Now, the boxing world agrees: Buster Douglas is heavyweight champion.

His first challenger may be Mike Tyson.

Douglas-Tyson II came close to clearing the final hurdle Tuesday when Evander Holyfield's manager, Ken Sanders, said in Atlanta that his boxer probably would step aside to allow the rematch.

Billionaire developer Donald Trump says Douglas-Tyson II will be June 18 in Atlantic City, although Douglas has not signed a contract.

In fact, Douglas only learned hours earlier that he was undisputed champion when the World Boxing Association being the last of the sport's three major governing bodies to recognise his 10th-round knockout of Tyson Sunday in Tokyo.

"We don't have a rematch now," Don King, Tyson's promoter and adviser, said Tuesday at a news conference. "We're trying to get one. The first thing we have to do is get a rematch. As you know, the catching comes before the hanging."

King said he was negotiating with representatives of Douglas and Holyfield to work out an agreement.

Tyson, who appeared with King at the news conference, said his loss was "a temporary, minor setback. I don't take it to heart. I'll be the champion again. I'm still one of the best fighters in the world and when the rematch comes I'll prove it."

Holyfield, as the number-one ranked contender, was the mandatory challenger to Douglas's first defense. But he has decided to wait until after Tyson-Douglas II.

"We've been approached to make a deal, by Don King, to step aside and make way for the rematch," Sanders said. "We're waiting for the contract from him. If it's what they said it would be,

we probably would do it."

Sanders said Holyfield would fight on the undercard, then fight the Tyson-Douglas winner in September or October.

In his hometown of Columbus, Ohio, Douglas said the main thing for him "is that I am now looked upon as the heavyweight champion of the world. It was a lifelong dream come true, and I thank God for that."

The International Boxing Federation recognised Douglas as champion immediately, and the World Boxing Council extended recognition Monday night after King, who promotes Tyson, dropped a protest of the result.

Douglas said while he's not opposed to fighting Tyson again, he hadn't signed anything yet. "I was upset about the fact that I wasn't looked upon as the total, undisputed heavyweight champion, and now it seems like that's been cleared up," Douglas said.

King started the controversy over Douglas' knockout by protesting that referee Octavio Meyran counted too long over Douglas when he was knocked down in the eighth round. Douglas got up and knocked out Tyson two rounds later.

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## THE Daily Crossword by Hank Harrington

ACROSS  
1 Hindu prince  
4 Springs  
10 Sandwich type  
14 Author Jong  
15 Sandwich type  
16 Name  
17 P.M. equinox?  
19 Church section  
20 Effortless  
21 Charity  
22 Addict  
23 Zone  
24 Company  
25 Whirlpool  
30 "my God to thee"  
32 Wall climber  
33 Uncle Mille  
34 Pres. or Gov.  
37 Except  
38 Banks or Kovacs  
39 Puerto  
40 Pub quart  
41 Fall with joy  
42 War clubs  
43 — derby  
45 Port source  
46 Reprimand  
48 AKA Lamb  
50 Ames follower  
51 Col. sub.  
52 Purse  
53 Comes in first  
57 Vampires?  
58 Sommer  
60 Merit  
61 Nasty  
62 Take ten  
63 Warhol or  
64 WY range

DOWN  
1 Lacoste  
2 Open feature  
3 Likely dances  
4 Having flu symptoms  
5 Pass the —  
6 Oily stone  
7 Beauty shop  
8 War god  
9 Help  
10 Promise  
11 Beauty shop  
12 Beauty job?  
13 Racer Bobby  
or AI  
14 Wallace or Noah  
15 Groucho  
16 Lesser to DOE  
17 Nasty  
18 Wrath  
19 Travel need  
20 Elipses  
21 Leon Roasters?  
22 Driving gadget  
23 FA port  
24 Cool slope  
25 Cooler  
26 Nosey  
27 Fashion  
28 Napsheba  
29 Oozed  
30 BPOE member  
31 A Farrow  
32 Beginning  
33 Coll  
34 More crude  
35 A Zola  
36 Demanded  
37 Dash  
38 Tops  
39 Give notice  
40 Reverse  
41 Gulf or port  
42 Arthur of  
43 "Golden Girls"  
44 White House monogram

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS  
1 Hindu prince  
4 Springs  
10 Sandwich type  
14 Author Jong  
15 Sandwich type  
16 Name  
17 P.M. equinox?  
19 Church section  
20 Effortless  
21 Charity  
22 Addict  
23 Zone  
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25 Whirlpool  
30 "my God to thee"  
32 Wall climber  
33 Uncle Mille  
34 Pres. or Gov.  
37 Except  
38 Banks or Kovacs  
39 Puerto  
40 Pub quart  
41 Fall with joy  
42 War clubs  
43 — derby  
45 Port source  
46 Reprimand  
48 AKA Lamb  
50 Ames follower  
51 Col. sub.  
52 Purse  
53 Comes in first  
57 Vampires?  
58 Sommer  
60 Merit  
61 Nasty  
62 Take ten  
63 Warhol or  
64 WY range

DOWN  
1 Lacoste  
2 Open feature  
3 Likely dances  
4 Having flu symptoms  
5 Pass the —  
6 Oily stone  
7 Beauty shop  
8 War god  
9 Help  
10 Promise  
11 Beauty shop  
12 Beauty job?  
13 Racer Bobby  
or AI  
14 Wallace or Noah  
15 Groucho  
16 Lesser to DOE  
17 Nasty  
18 Wrath  
19 Travel need  
20 Elipses  
21 Leon Roasters?  
22 Driving gadget  
23 FA port  
24 Cool slope  
25 Cooler  
26 Nosey  
27 Fashion  
28 Napsheba  
29 Oozed  
30 BPOE member  
31 A Farrow  
32 Beginning  
33 Coll  
34 More crude  
35 A Zola  
36 Demanded  
37 Dash  
38 Tops  
39 Give notice  
40 Reverse  
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42 Arthur of  
43 "Golden Girls"  
44 White House monogram

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